

### Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for configuring the software of a headless ~~USB-compliant server~~ computer of a computer network, comprising the steps of:

coupling a communications link between the headless ~~server~~ computer and a configuration computer, the communications link coupled at a ~~USB~~ port of each of the headless ~~server~~ computer and the configuration computer, wherein the headless computer comprises a computer that does not include a monitor, keyboard, mouse, and video card;

establishing data communication between the headless ~~server~~ computer and the configuration computer through the communications link coupled between ~~and~~ the ~~USB~~ ports of the headless ~~server~~ computer and configuration computer; and

communicating data between the headless ~~server~~ computer and the configuration computer to configure the software of the headless ~~server~~ computer.

2. (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of a headless ~~USB-compliant server~~ computer of claim 1, wherein the step of establishing data communication between the headless ~~server~~ computer and the configuration computer comprises the steps of,

transmitting from the configuration computer to the headless ~~server~~ computer a query concerning the identity of the headless ~~server~~ computer; and

receiving from the headless ~~server~~ computer data indicative of the identity of the headless ~~server~~ computer.

3. (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of a headless ~~USB-compliant server~~ computer of claim 2, further comprising the step of determining at the configuration computer whether the headless ~~server~~ computer is a USB-compliant device.

4. (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of a headless ~~USB-compliant server~~ computer of claim 3, further comprising the step of performing a configuration routine at the configuration computer on the basis of the identity of the headless ~~server~~ computer to permit the configuration computer to communicate with the headless ~~server~~ computer if the headless ~~server~~ computer is determined to be USB-compliant.

5. (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of a headless ~~USB-compliant server~~ computer of claim 4, further comprising the step of initiating configuration application software at the configuration computer.

6. (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of a headless ~~USB-compliant server~~ computer of claim 5, further comprising the steps of communicating between the configuration computer and the headless ~~server~~ computer to cause the headless ~~server~~ computer to initiate configuration application software at the configuration computer to permit data communication between the configuration computer and the headless ~~server~~ computer.

7. (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of a headless ~~USB-compliant server~~ computer of claim 1, wherein the configuration computer is a portable computer.

8. (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of a headless ~~USB-compliant server~~ computer of claim 1, wherein the configuration computer is a palmtop computer.

9-20. (Cancelled).

21. (Currently Amended) A method for configuring the software of a headless ~~server~~ computer, the headless ~~server~~ computer having the ability to transmit data according to a data transmission protocol that accommodates hot-swapping of peripherals and automatic identification of peripherals capability, comprising:

coupling a communications link between the headless ~~server~~ computer and a configuration computer, the communications link coupled at a port of each of the headless ~~server~~ computer and the configuration computer, the port having the capability of transmitting data according to the data transmission protocol, wherein the headless computer comprises a computer that does not include a monitor, keyboard, mouse, and video card;

establishing data communication between the headless ~~server~~ computer and the configuration computer through communications link and the ports of the headless ~~server~~ computer and the configuration computer; and

communicating data between the headless ~~server~~ computer and the configuration computer to configure the software of the headless ~~server~~ computer.

22. (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of the headless ~~server~~ computer of claim 21, wherein the step of establishing data communication between the headless ~~server~~ computer and the configuration computer comprises the steps of:

transmitting data from the configuration computer to the headless ~~server~~ computer a query concerning the identity of the headless ~~server~~ computer; and

receiving from the headless ~~server~~ computer data indicative of the identity of the headless ~~server~~ computer.

23. (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of the headless ~~server~~ computer of claim 22, further comprising the step of determining at the configuration computer whether the headless ~~server~~ computer has the ability to transmit data according to the data transmission protocol.

24. (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of the headless ~~server~~ computer of claim 22, further comprising the step of performing a configuration routine at the configuration computer on the basis of the identity of the headless ~~server~~ computer to permit the configuration computer to communicate with the headless ~~server~~ computer if the headless ~~server~~ computer is determined to have the ability to transmit data according to the data transmission protocol.

25. (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of the headless server computer of claim 24, further comprising the step of initiating configuration application software at the configuration computer.

26. (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of the headless server computer of claim 25, further comprising the steps of communicating between the configuration computer and the headless server computer to cause the headless server computer to initiate configuration application software at the configuration computer to permit data communication between the configuration computer and the headless server computer using a graphical user interface.

27. (New) The method for configuring the software of a headless computer of claim 1, wherein the headless computer is a server computer.

28. (New) The method for configuring the software of the headless computer of claim 21, wherein the headless computer is a server computer.